RE: CONFIDENTIAL - border blockade work arounds, CBSA support required

From: "Kurusamy, Gowthaman" <gowthaman.kurusamy@ps-sp.gc.ca>
To: "Holodny, Eugenia" <eugenia.holodny@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca>
Cc: "Horonowitsch, Emily" <emily.horonowitsch@ps-sp.gc.ca>, "Johnston, Jag (Ext.)" <jag.johnston@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca>, "Sharp, Matthew" <matthew.sharp@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca>, "Jones, Mike" <mike.jones@ps-sp.gc.ca>, "Savard-Shaw, Julie" <julie.savard-shaw@ps-sp.gc.ca>, "Cohen, Alexander" <alexander.cohen@ps-sp.gc.ca>
Date: Thu, 10 Feb 2022 20:02:47 +0000

Thanks for this Eugenia.

Can we confirm when CBSA may make a determination on the highlighted. Can you please keep MinO appraised of updates on this. Would also be helpful to highlight what the Minister can say publically on some of these accommodations etc.

Many thanks!
Gowthaman

Gowthaman Kurusamy
Director of Operations | Directeur des opérations
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Gowthaman.Kurusamy@ps-sp.gc.ca
C: (Irr) Irre Irre

From: Holodny, Eugenia <Eugenia.Holodny@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca>
Sent: Thursday, February 10, 2022 2:29 PM
To: Kurusamy, Gowthaman <Gowthaman.Kurusamy@ps-sp.gc.ca>
Cc: Horonowitsch, Emily <Emily.Horonowitsch@PS-SP.GC.CA>; Johnston, Jag (Ext.) <jag.johnston@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca>; Sharp, Matthew <Matthew.Sharp@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca>
Subject: RE: CONFIDENTIAL - border blockade work arounds, CBSA support required

Hi Gowthaman,

The team just finished a discussion with the Regional Director General (RDG) Durocher and GM. Please find below a summary in support of your discussion with GM later this afternoon.

GM is seeking CBSA support to facilitate the move of Trusted Trader goods (CSA) using the Windsor Ferry and air charters into London, Hamilton, and Windsor.

- Southern Ontario Region (SOR) has indicated they are well positioned to support increased use of the ferry starting today and expand hours to 24/7 should GM and the ferry operator agree to increase ferry operating hours and ice conditions permit the use of the ferry. The ferry is normally reserved for oversized loads and hazardous goods, but can carry 8-10 normal transport trucks. There are no program level issues related to GM exercising this option as GM has indicted the goods will be CSA goods and the drivers will be FAST drivers.

- With respect to the use of air charters, there are no issues related to trusted trader goods arriving at Windsor and London. There are well established processes in place and SOR has indicated that it can operationally support as required.

- GM has requested to bring charters into Hamilton airport. This requires further analysis as this would be a different kind of business for the airport. CTB will be closing the loop with GTA this afternoon to determine if this request is supportable. GM indicated that the first flight would be scheduled for Friday 11 Feb at approx. 2pm but they understand that CBSA has not confirmed we can support this.

- Discussion are ongoing with other trusted traders and USCPB in the Windsor-Detroit area regarding the use of the tunnel. The tunnel has significant size restrictions and cannot accommodate modern transport trucks. Trusted Traders are examining the use of nondescript cube vans to move parts. This can be supported by the Trusted Trader Program and SOR.

- While the Walpole Island Ferry is located in Southwestern Ontario, it is seasonal and not presently operating.

There have been numerous questions about our commercial systems being able to support truck diverting to different Ports of Entry on short notice. This is supportable. An EDI bulletin is being finalized to update frontline staff on the process to manage this at PIL and avoid referrals to secondary. Messaging to traders is also going out.

Thanks,
Eugenia Holodny
613-293-6918

From: Kurusamy, Gowthaman <Gowthaman.Kurusamy@ps-sp.gc.ca>
Sent: February 10, 2022 11:27 AM
To: Holodny, Eugenia <Eugenia.Holodny@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca>
Cc: Horonowitsch, Emily <Emily.Horonowitsch@PS-SP.GC.CA>; Johnston, Jag <Jag.Johnston@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca>; Sharp, Matthew <Matthew.Sharp@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca>
Subject: RE: CONFIDENTIAL - border blockade work arounds, CBSA support required

Thanks! I have a meeting with her at 3:00PM so if I could get the latest by 2:45PM that would be helpful just to make sure we're on the same page.

Much appreciated.

Cheers,
Gowthaman

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From: Holodny, Eugenia <Eugenia.Holodny@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca>
Sent: Thursday, February 10, 2022 11:24 AM
To: Kurusamy, Gowthaman <Gowthaman.Kurusamy@ps-sp.gc.ca>
Cc: Horonowitsch, Emily <Emily.Horonowitsch@PS-SP.GC.CA>; Johnston, Jag (Ext.) <jag.johnston@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca>; Sharp, Matthew <Matthew.Sharp@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca>
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Hi Gowthaman,

The team advised that the same individual from GM has reached out to CBSA and they are already working together to find alternative solutions.

Will keep you posted.

Thanks,
Eugenia

Eugenia Holodny
613-293-6918

From: Kurusamy, Gowthaman <Gowthaman.Kurusamy@ps-sp.gc.ca>
Sent: February 10, 2022 10:24 AM
To: Holodny, Eugenia <Eugenia.Holodny@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca>
Cc: Horonowitsch, Emily <Emily.Horonowitsch@PS-SP.GC.CA>
Subject: FW: CONFIDENTIAL - border blockade work arounds, CBSA support required
Importance: High

Hi Eugenia,

Sharing the request from GM below.

Is this something we can have CBSA review quickly and provide an assessment on from an operational perspective? Is this feasible? Any considerations?

Appreciate your help.

Thanks,
Gowthaman

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From: Sarah Goldfeder <sarah.goldfeder@gm.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 10, 2022 9:46 AM
To: Kurusamy, Gowthaman <Gowthaman.Kurusamy@ps-sp.gc.ca>
Subject: RE: CONFIDENTIAL - border blockade work arounds, CBSA support required
Importance: High

It appears we now have the ice breaking and ferry operator lined up – we just need the CBSA support at the ferry terminal.
Sarah

From: Sarah Goldfeder
Sent: Thursday, February 10, 2022 8:54 AM
To: Kurusamy, Gowthaman <Gowthaman.Kurusamy@ps-sp.gc.ca>
Subject: CONFIDENTIAL - border blockade work arounds, CBSA support required

Good morning,
In the hopes you have a minute to take a look at this before our call this afternoon.
We are looking at two alternatives to work around the issues on the land crossings. Even with BWB open, we are increasingly challenged by both the hours of service requirements and increasing reluctance on the part of the trucking companies to take our loads through due to the combination of uncertainty and delays.

Our preferred option is by river, we have procured the agreement of a ferry operator, but we would need two things from the government of Canada.

1) CCG support – the harbors are iced in, the CCG Griffon icebreaker is in the Detroit river right now, we would need its help to access the harbors in both Detroit and Windsor.
2) CBSA support at the Ferry terminal - All trucks using Ferry option would typically be cleared highway mode through CSA/FAST. We request these trucks continue to be processed by CBSA through FAST/CSA upon arrival.

We are also looking at air cargo, which is more expensive and difficult, so it is less desirable, but we would look for extended hours of operation at YHM and YXU. The shipments would need to be released using Automotive Production Line Release, where the air carrier only provides a copy of the manifest and CBSA stamps it for release. So we would need after hours CBSA support there at as well.

Sarah

Sarah Goldfeder (she/her)
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